SCOTLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Monday, February 2, 2015
A.B. Gibson Education Center, 322 South Main Street, Laurinburg, NC

AGENDA

7:00 p.m. Call to Order — Chairman Guy McCook
Invocation
Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Public Forum ***(please state name and address and observe a three-minute time limit)***

Item 1. Public Hearing: Conditional Use Application 479-14 by MLE, Inc.

Item 2. FY 2013-2014 Audit

Item 3. Liaison Committee report/Schools capacity study discussion

Item 4. Tax liens and request to advertise

Item 5. Consent Agenda:

a) Approve minutes of the January 5, 2015, Water Districts meeting, the January 5, 2015 regular meeting and the January 26, 2015 special meeting.

b) Approve request by Public Buildings and Grounds to surplus two E-Z Riders used for dragging softball and baseball fields.

c) Approve request by the City of Laurinburg to hold Independence Day fireworks on July 4, 2015.

d) Approve Tax Department request to release funds in the amount of $31.45 and $690.60 and discoveries in the amount of $11,129.55.

e) Approve request by the Sheriff for the reduction of the assigned Grade/Step of the Sheriff's position from 78-12 $73,260 to 78-10 $69,720, which is an annual savings of $3,540.

f) Approve request by the Sheriff for the reclassification of Position #31-3, Captain, from Grade/Step 70-6 $44,076 to Major at 74-8 $55,440, which is an annual difference of ($11,364).

g) Budget amendments

1) Sheriff: Approve increase in Drug Fund in the amount of $11,838, and were drug monies obtained from the outgoing Sheriff, and authorize the Finance Officer to expend the monies as requested by the Sheriff's Department.

Item 6. Update on sales tax and property tax collections
Overview of the purchase order process

Item 7. Appointments to Boards and Committees

Item 8. Update from the County Manager
Comments from the Chairman and Commissioners

Item 9. Closed Session held in accordance with N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, condition of appointment of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee.

Adjourn

Procedural Bulletin -- Public Forum Effective Date: February 18, 2000

It is the intent of the Scotland County Board of Commissioners to allow a Public Forum at each of its regular meetings for citizens to address the Board regarding issues or questions of benefit and/or interest to the general public in a positive fashion. It is the Board's further intent that matters shared during this forum not be harmful, discriminatory, or embarrassing to any citizen or employee of Scotland County, but that any concerns brought forward be expressed in general terms that provide the Board appropriate data to research the issue and respond to the speaker at a later time.

It is strongly suggested that personnel concerns go first through the Office of the County Manager (507 West Covington Street, Laurinburg NC 28352) or directly to County Commissioners, preferably in writing, in order for staff and/or Commissioners to attempt to address those concerns privately and with the necessary available resources.

To assure the Board of Commissioners' positive intent for the Public Forum is upheld, the following "ground rules" have been set by the Board of Commissioners:

1) Each speaker shall register his/her name and mailing address in order to assure accurate minutes and/or ability to respond.
2) There will be a time limit of no more than *three* minutes per speaker.
3) Only one speaker will be recognized at any given time. Others must wait their turn.
4) Any applause shall be held until the end of the Public Forum.
5) Discussion of County personnel issues is limited to only those issues where satisfactory resolution has been pursued, but not achieved, through the chain of command ending with the County Manager.
6) Derogatory references to specific County staff, by name, are prohibited.

It should be understood that the Board allows the Public Forum in the interest of sharing information, which serves the common good.

Scotland County Board of Commissioners

SCOTLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ITEM ABSTRACT

ITEM NO. _1__
____ Information
_X__ Action Item
_____ Consent Agenda

Meeting Date February 2, 2015

SUBJECT:	Public Hearing: Conditional Use Application 479-14 by MLE, Inc.
DEPARTMENT:	Planning and Zoning
PUBLIC HEARING:	Yes
CONTACT PERSON:	Planning and Zoning Chairman Daniel Dockery
PURPOSE:	Discuss conditional use request and hold public hearing for comment on request.
ATTACHMENTS:	Planning and Zoning Board memo Notice of Public Hearing Application #479-14 Site location maps
BACKGROUND:	N/A
PRIOR BOARD ACTION:	The Board of Commissioners at its January 5, 2015, meeting asked for submission of additional information.
RECOMMENDATIONS:	Hold public hearing and consider action on the application

Scotland County Planning & Zoning

Memo

To: Scotland County Board of Commissioners

From: Planning & Zoning Board

Date: 01-31-14

Re: **Conditional Use Application 479-14**

The Scotland County Planning and Zoning Board met Wednesday, January 21,2015 regarding Conditional Use Application 479-14 requested by MLE, Inc. Scotland County Zoning Ordinance SECTION 38.STANDARDS was reviewed in consideration of this application.

After review of the application and standards the Scotland County Planning and Zoning Board would like to recommend Conditional Use Application 479-14 requested by MLE, Inc. be approved by the Scotland County Board of Commissioners.

A site plan is attached to show the location of all buildings and ranges to be on the property.

All live ammunition will be used in the "shoot house" only and non lethal ammunition will be used on the outdoor ranges.

Ms. Joann Gentry, Director of Laurinburg Maxton Airport Commission and Mr. John McRae of Scotland Aero Services/Safety at LMAC were present and stated they supported MLE, Inc.'s request.

[To be published under "Legal Notices"]

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held by the Scotland County Board of Commissioners at 7:00 PM (or as soon thereafter as possible) on Monday, February 2, 2015 in the A B Gibson Center Board Room, 322 S. Main St, Laurinburg, NC, to consider the following request:

> **Conditional Use Application Number 479-14 – MLE, Inc.** - Request for Conditional Use Permit defense training for military, law enforcement and other government agencies. The property is located at the intersection of Airbase Road and Skyway Church Road of Scotland County; better known as Scotland County Tax Map Number 252, Parcel 01, Block 005. The property is owned by MLE Incorporated, Pembroke, North Carolina.

Persons interested are invited to attend this Public Hearing and express their opinions regarding the above request. Scotland County Government makes every effort to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you are handicapped individual and/or need an interpreter, please notify us at 910-277-3191 at least 72 hours before the hearing.

Laurinburg Exchange
January 23, 2015 &
January 30, 2015

SCOTLAND COUNTY
PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT
FEES ARE NON REFUNDABLE

Application for: _____ Rezoning $300.00
Present Zoning District: _____
Proposed Zoning District: _____
_____ Zoning Variance $150.00
✓ Conditional Use $300.00
_____ Subdivision Variance N/C
_____ Appeal per Section 6 of Ordinance 28 N/C

Application No.: 479-14
Date: _____
Receipt No. _____

Applicant: MLE INC
Address: P.O. Box 968
Pembroke N.C. 28372
Phone Number: 910-734-8468

Owner: MLE INC
Address: P.O. Box 968
Pembroke N.C. 28372
Phone Number: 910-734-8468

Attach property deed, owner consent form signed and notarized if applicant is not the owner, a copy of the appropriate portion of the Scotland County Tax Map showing location of the subject property and surrounding properties and any pertinent information to support the above request (petitions, supporting letters, etc.).

The request is for: Defense Traing contained shoothouse facility for Military, Law Enforcement and Other Gov Agencies (OGA's). Defense Contracting Co. that manufactures a poly-vinyl Material for Camouflage, Training, & Concealment System for the DoD. This facility will also be the main HQ for DLSI / DLTA to service Military Contracts Nationally & Globally for DoD.

The property is located at: 1556 Airbase Rd. Wagram, NC.

Parcel Identification Number : Tax Map Number 252 Block 01 Parcel 005

Parcel Frontage: 6150 feet and depth of _____ feet and containing 50 (Sq. Ft. or Acres)

Indicate any impact(s) on the present area: _____

Justification: Adding 50-75 NEW JOBS to county. Improving the appearance of prop. Si: Traing facility will bring clients from all over world to see County. Opportunities to develop neighboring properties close to site will develop as we grow.

Time schedule for development: Immediate

I (We) the undersigned, do hereby make application and petition the appropriate Scotland County Board and certify that all statements furnished in this application are true to the best of my (our) knowledge.

Signature of Applicant 9-26-14 Date

Accepted by: (Planning and Zoning Department) 10/1/14 Date

Site Location of I.R.L.T.S.™

Site Location of Laser Shot and Simulation in existing buildings

Site Location of RANGER™ Obstacle Course

SCOTLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ITEM ABSTRACT

ITEM NO. 2

X Information

\ Action Item

Meeting Date February 2, 2015

Consent Agenda

SUBJECT:	FY 2013-2014 Audit
DEPARTMENT:	Governing body
PUBLIC HEARING:	No
CONTACT PERSON:	Mr. Carl Head, Gustaf C. Lundin & Company
PURPOSE:	Provide a summary and findings on revenues, expenditures and the state of the Scotland County budget for FY 2013-2014.
ATTACHMENTS:	Audit presentation Communication on deficiencies Scope of audit
BACKGROUND:	N/A
PRIOR BOARD ACTION:	N/A
RECOMMENDATIONS:	Receive report

Scotland County
Audit Presentation
30-Jun-14

We provide reasonable not absolute assurance.

Our opinion is unmodified.

General Fund

Net change in fund balance 2013	$ 832,527	Includes debt proceeds of $223,805 and transfers of ($139,171).
Revenues over expenditures 2013	$ 747,893	
Net change in fund balance 2014	$ 2,972,464	Includes debt proceeds of $1,161,713 and transfers of ($75,000).
Revenues over expenditures 2014	$ 1,885,751	

Key Points: Revenues were more than budgeted mainly due to property taxes.
Overall Expenditures were less than budgeted.

	Public Works	Water 1	Water 2
Change in net position 2013	$ (168,232)	$ 2,300	$ (67,034)
Change in net position 2014	$ (167,209)	$ (17,078)	$ (66,364)
Statement of Cash flows:			
Operating cash (loss) gain 2013	$ (14,926)	$ 200,805	$ 320,784
Operating cash (loss) gain 2014	$ (26,811)	$ 188,348	$ 338,272

Key Points: Water 1 and 2 have operating income that are positve, Interest payments cause negative amount.

Water 1 and 2 have positive cash flow from operations. Interest payments on bonds is primary reason Water 1 and 2 have losses.

Financial Statement findings

Finding	1 significant	Deficit in fund balance (Public Works fund).
	Recommendation	Look for new revenue streams and cost cutting measures.
Finding	2 significant	Prior period adjustments.

Gustaf C. Lundin & Company, LLP

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
CREECH BUILDING - 105 EAST RAILROAD STREET
P.O. DRAWER 1768
LAURINBURG, NORTH CAROLINA 28353-1768
TELEPHONE 910-276-1371
FAX 910-276-1995

WM. TED CURRIE, CPA
CARL L. HEAD, CPA

MEMBERS OF
NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

To the Scotland County Board of Commissioners
Scotland County, North Carolina

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Scotland County, North Carolina, for the year ended June 30, 2014, we considered the County's internal control in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on internal control.

However, during our audit, we became aware of several matters that are opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency. (We previously reported on the County's internal control in our report dated December 15, 2014.) This letter does not affect our report dated December 15, 2014, on the financial statements of Scotland County, North Carolina.

We will review the status of these comments during our next audit engagement. We have already discussed many of these comments and suggestions with various County personnel, and we will be pleased to discuss these comments in further detail at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to assist you in implementing the recommendations. Our comments are summarized as follows:

Second party quality control review of client files at DSS

With the implementation and transition to the NC Fast System at DSS, we strongly recommend that supervisors allocate more time to conduct quality control reviews of client case files. The NC Fast System is relatively new, and therefore, subject to system errors. By conducting more quality control reviews of client case files, controls will be strengthened and errors will be less likely. This area of concern is mentioned in the financial statements as Finding 2014-3.

Cash collection points

County personnel collect cash at various locations throughout the County. During the audit, certain cash collection points are reviewed and personnel that collect cash are interviewed. Each cash collection point prepares reconciliations and daily cash reports of collections that are reported to the County finance department. Because cash collection points are inherently risky, we recommend that continued periodic reviews of all cash collection points be conducted throughout the year. During the year, certain control improvements were made by finance personnel to cash collection points and we recommend continued diligence in this area.

Gustaf C. Lundin + Company, LLP

GUSTAF C. LUNDIN & COMPANY, LLP
December 15, 2014

Gustaf C. Lundin & Company, LLP

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
CREECH BUILDING - 105 EAST RAILROAD STREET
P.O. DRAWER 1768
LAURINBURG, NORTH CAROLINA 28353-1768
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AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

December 15, 2014

To the Scotland County Board of Commissioners
Scotland County of North Carolina

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Scotland County for the year ended June 30, 2014. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards (and, if applicable, *Government Auditing Standards* and OMB Circular A-133), as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated July 07, 2014. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Scotland County are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year. We noted no transactions entered into by Scotland County during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate(s) affecting Scotland County's financial statements were:

-Management's estimate of the depreciation is based on assumptions made about the economic useful life at the time of purchase.

-Management's estimate of the allowance for uncollectable accounts is based on historical collection rates.

-Management's estimate of landfill closure and post closure costs is based on engineering studies and management imput.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the depreciation and allowance for uncollectable accounts in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosure(s) affecting the financial statements was -

> The disclosure of Other Postemployment Benefits on Page 44 of the financial statements describes the present value of the health care liability owed to qualifying retirees. Actuarial assumptions and methods were used as well as a third party actuary service to determine this liability and not disclosure.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit.

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. The following misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures include some that are considered material. These misstatements were corrected by management posting the journal entries to the County's books.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated December 15, 2014.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to Scotland County's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as Scotland County's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to introductory information such as the MD&A, which is required supplementary information that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on Component units, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the use of Scotland County Board of Commissioners and management of Scotland County and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

Gustaf C. Lundin + Company, LLP

GUSTAF C. LUNDIN & COMPANY, LLP

Entry	#	Status	Account/Code	Description	Workpaper	Misstate	Debit	Credit
AJE	1	Posted	100-0000-103.10-20	Investments Current / Certific	A-80		94.90	
			100-1010-361.10-00	Investment Earnings / Interest				94.90
			To bring balance to cash confirmation A-80 for interested earned					
AJE	2	Posted	796-0000-101.10-40	Cash in Bank / DSS	A-24			13,311.47
			796-0000-202.40-40	Accounts Payable / DSS			13,311.47	
			to correct for transactions in agency fund					
AJE	3	Posted	568-0000-101.10-10	Cash in Bank / BB & T	A-20		34,264.97	
			568-0000-205.10-00	Accounts Payable / Due To Gene				34,264.97
			100-0000-101.10-10	Cash in Bank / BB & T				34,264.97
			100-0000-105.56-80	Accounts Receivable / Due From			34,264.97	
			568-0000-223.10-00	Deferred Revenue / Deferred Re			5,909.92	
			568-1010-344.20-10	Public Works / Tipping Fees				5,909.92
			to bring negative balances to 0 in the 568 fund					
AJE	4	Posted	551-0000-205.20-00	Accounts Payable / Due To	A-20		81,863.53	
			551-0000-101.10-10	Cash in Bank / BB & T				81,863.53
			550-0000-101.10-10	Cash in Bank / BB & T			81,863.53	
			550-0000-105.56-20	Accounts Receivable / Due From				81,863.53
			to adjust for cash balances and froms intercompany in the 550 and 551 funds					
AJE	5	Posted	575-1010-389.99-00	Miscellaneous / Other Revenues	a-90		55,491.15	
			575-1010-452.28-90	Contract Services / Other/Cont				49,558.58
			575-0000-101.10-10	Cash in Bank / BB & T				5,932.57
			576-0000-101.10-10	Cash in Bank / BB & T			5,932.57	
			576-1010-389.99-00	Miscellaneous / Other Revenues				55,491.15
			576-1010-452.63-20	Other Expenditures / Pass Thru			49,558.58	
			remove agency fund inmate stuff from GF.					
AJE	6	Posted	100-0000-115.10-35	Accounts Receivable / DSS	C-31			34,886.27
			100-6010-346.10-05	DSS-ADM / Allotment			34,886.27	
			to correct AR for DSS					
AJE	7	Posted	568-0000-116.00-00	AR Sales Taxes	C-32-33		17,051.58	
			568-0000-115.10-99	Accounts Receivable / Customer				17,051.58
			568-0000-117.00-00	AR Other grant type revenue			27,422.47	
			568-0000-115.10-99	Accounts Receivable / Customer				27,422.47
			to remove sales tax rec from customer receivables and remove other AR from Customer AR.					
AJE	8	DELETED	**********					
AJE	9	Posted	550-0000-115.10-99	Accounts Receivable / Other	c-65 c-61			54,377.53
			550-1010-344.10-15	Water & Sewer / Water Sales			54,377.53	
			550-0000-115.10-99	Accounts Receivable / Other				17,407.22
			550-1010-344.10-15	Water & Sewer / Water Sales			17,407.22	
			551-0000-115.10-99	Accounts Receivable / Other				32,650.42
			551-1010-344.10-15	Water & Sewer / Water Sales			32,650.42	
			551-0000-115.10-99	Accounts Receivable / Other				3,545.21
			551-1010-344.10-15	Water & Sewer / Water Sales			3,545.21	
			551-0000-115.10-99	Accounts Receivable / Other				30,173.73
			551-0000-115.10-50	Accounts Receivable / Allowanc			30,173.73	
			551-0000-115.10-50	Accounts Receivable / Allowanc				8,938.64
			551-1010-433.17-50	Bad debts expense			8,938.64	
			568-0000-115.10-99	Accounts Receivable / Customer				13,539.05
			568-1010-344.20-10	Public Works / Tipping Fees			13,539.05	
			to remove amounts receivable already included in c-65. To correct. Also, to remove greater than 90 day REc that were included balance this is write off. And to correct Je to remove david enterprise from AR see C-61					
AJE	10	Posted	551-0000-115.10-50	Accounts Receivable / Allowanc	C-65			17,274.67
			551-1010-433.17-50	Bad debts expense			17,274.67	
			550-0000-115.10-50	Accounts Receivable / Allowanc				2,539.19
			550-1010-433.17-50	Bad Debts expense			2,539.19	
			550-0000-168.00-00	Due from other govts (city)				
			to adjust ada to actual.					

Entry #	Status	Account/Code	Description	Workpaper	Misstate	Debit	Credit
AJE 11	Posted	550-0000-168.00-00	Due from other govts (city)	C-67		54,377.53	
		551-0000-168.00-00	Due from other govts(city)			32,650.42	
		550-0000-271.10-00	Equity / Retained Earnings				49,047.00
		551-0000-271.10-00	Equity / Retained Earnings				41,479.29
		550-1010-344.10-15	Water & Sewer / Water Sales				5,330.53
		551-1010-344.10-15	Water & Sewer / Water Sales			8,828.87	
		to record due from City for amount collected by county in July from City related to June. This has never been recorded and affects net position. This is PPA in both funds					
AJE 12	Posted	100-7510-470.81-20	Interest	cc-28		1,957.80	
		100-2010-421.74-30	Equipment / Vehicles				1,957.80
		to correct interest expense					
AJE 13	Posted	550-0000-167.00-00	Assets / Fixed Assets/Gen	F-20		8,592.00	
		550-1010-433.74-40	Equipment / Property over $500				8,592.00
		550-0000-167.10-00	Fixed Assets/Gen / Accumed Dep				114,023.83
		550-1010-433.74-25	Depreciation Expense			114,023.83	
		551-1010-433.74-25	Depreciation Expense			183,736.02	
		551-0000-167.10-00	Fixed Assets/Gen / Accumed Dep				183,736.02
		568-1010-432.74-50	Equipment / Heavy Equipment				125,960.31
		568-1010-432.74-50	Equipment / Heavy Equipment				15,550.00
		568-0000-167.00-00	Assets / Fixed Assets/Gen			141,510.31	
		568-1010-432.74-25	Equipment / Depreciation Expe			65,384.56	
		568-0000-167.10-00	Fixed Assets/Gen / Accumed Dep				65,384.56
		to reclass fixed assets for exp and reocrd dep exp					
AJE 14	Posted	568-0000-167.10-00	Fixed Assets/Gen / Accumed Dep	F-32		128,369.00	
		568-0000-167.00-00	Assets / Fixed Assets/Gen				128,369.00
		568-0000-167.10-00	Fixed Assets/Gen / Accumed Dep			21,676.29	
		568-0000-167.00-00	Assets / Fixed Assets/Gen				21,676.29
		to adjust for items sold (transferred)					
AJE 15	Posted	217-1010-421.35-10	Operating Expenses / Utilities	pbc			4,190.72
		217-0000-101.10-10	Cash in Bank / BB & T			4,190.72	
		100-0000-101.10-10	Cash in Bank / BB & T				4,190.72
		100-2510-421.31-40	Repair & Maintenance / Tires/B			4,190.72	
		to reclass items to proper fund					
AJE 16	Posted	568-1010-432.68-40	Contingencies / Landfill Closu	BB-30		2,505.00	
		568-0000-235.00-00	Liabilities / Accrued LF Closu				2,505.00
		to adjust					
AJE 17	Posted	100-3520-419.35-10	Operating Expenses / Utilities	aa-20		424.34	
		100-3520-419.34-11	Utilities / Annex			1,468.50	
		100-3520-419.34-12	Utilities / Government Complex			5,863.68	
		100-3520-419.34-14	Utilities / CourtHouse			15,448.33	
		100-4510-452.35-10	Operating Expenses / Utilities			1,222.58	
		100-4515-451.35-10	Operating Expenses / Utilities			1,039.67	
		100-4516-451.35-10	Operating Expenses / Utilities			759.23	
		100-4560-455.35-10	Operating Expenses / Utilities			1,742.88	
		100-0000-202.10-00	Current Liabilities / Accounts				27,969.21
		100-1525-415.25-30	Professional Services / Legal			8,016.06	
		100-1525-415.25-30	Professional Services / Legal			6,956.43	
		100-0000-202.10-00	Current Liabilities / Accounts				14,972.49
		to adjust for unrecorded payables and to adjust for legal expenses					
AJE 18	DELETED	**********					
AJE 19	Posted	100-3520-419.35-10	Operating Expenses / Utilities			305.21	
		100-3520-419.34-11	Utilities / Annex			1,285.00	
		100-3520-419.34-12	Utilities / Government Complex			4,767.26	
		100-3520-419.34-14	Utilities / CourtHouse			12,140.76	
		100-4510-452.35-10	Operating Expenses / Utilities			1,399.42	
		100-4515-451.35-10	Operating Expenses / Utilities			633.20	
		100-4516-451.35-10	Operating Expenses / Utilities			531.72	
		100-4560-455.35-10	Operating Expenses / Utilities			1,588.07	
		100-0000-202.10-00	Current Liabilities / Accounts				22,650.64
		to adjust					

Entry #	Status	Account/Code	Description	Workpaper	Misstate	Debit	Credit
AJE 20	Posted	100-1520-311.10-00	Ad Valorem / Current Year			74,345.00	
		100-1010-389.99-00	Miscellaneous / Other Revenues				74,345.00
		100-1010-389.99-00	Miscellaneous / Other Revenues				18,869.36
		100-0000-250.10-20	Equity Reserved / Dental Insur			18,869.36	
		100-0000-107.15-10	Motor Vehicle / Adv Tax C/Y MV			186,501.15	
		100-0000-108.15-05	Prepaid Taxes / Prepaid Taxes				186,501.15
		100-1010-389.99-00	Miscellaneous / Other Revenues				
		100-0000-108.10-00	Current Assets / Reserve For T				
		100-0000-107.99-00	Taxes Receivable / Over 10 Yea				5,810.00
		100-0000-108.10-00	Current Assets / Reserve For T			5,810.00	
		reclassify amounts					
AJE 21	Posted	100-6010-346.10-05	DSS-ADM / Allotment	1001		692,179.66	
		100-0000-251.10-00	Equity / Fund Balance				692,179.66
		to record ppa for dss AR					
AJE 22	Posted	550-1010-433.12-01	Salary & Wages / Regular Salar	20-27		846.00	
		550-0000-218.01-00	Accrual Liability / Accrual Li				846.00
		568-1010-432.12-01	Salary & Wages / Regular Salar			5,553.00	
		568-0000-218.01-00	Accrual Liability / Accrual Li				5,553.00
		550-0000-238.10-00	Liabilities / Accrued OPEB			4,107.00	
		550-1010-433.17-10	Employee Insurance / Health				4,107.00
		to adjust					
AJE 23	Posted	100-1010-413.17-80	Employee Insurance / Workman's	AA-81			1,188.19
		100-1515-414.17-80	Employee Insurance / Workman's				1,188.19
		100-1530-415.17-80	Employee Insurance / Workman's				3,000.00
		100-0000-217.36-00	Payroll Liability / Unemployme			5,376.38	
		100-0000-217.35-00	Payroll Liability / Worker's C			22,219.49	
		100-2010-421.17-80	Employee Insurance / Workman's				5,554.87
		100-2015-423.17-80	Employee Insurance / Workman's				5,554.87
		100-2510-421.17-80	Employee Insurance / Workman's				5,554.87
		100-6010-444.17-80	Employee Insurance / Workman's				5,554.88
		to adjust liability to actual for workmans comp see AA-81. The unemployment insurance liability doesnt exist and is removed					
AJE 24	Posted	568-1010-432.12-01	Salary & Wages / Regular Salar	yy-20		30,342.00	
		568-0000-238.10-00	Liabilities / Accrued OPEB				30,342.00
		to record opeb. Notice that the water fund is so minimal and has a small credit balance that opeb isn't recorded there.					
AJE 25	Posted	217-1010-334.15-10	Grants / State Grant			122,530.00	
		217-0000-202.15-00	Deferred revenue				122,530.00
		217-0000-115.10-99	Accounts Receivable / Other			70,471.44	
		217-1010-334.15-10	Grants / State Grant				70,471.44
		to record deferred revenue. County was reimbursed for expenses they did not incur. Therefore not earned, instead recorded as deferred revenue					
AJE 26	Posted	100-0000-101.10-10	Cash in Bank / BB & T	pbc		81,000.00	
		550-1010-433.28-90	Contract Services / Other/Cont			40,500.00	
		551-1010-433.28-90	Other/Contracted Services			40,500.00	
		100-0110-411.25-10	Consultants				12,000.00
		100-1010-413.25-10	Consultants				69,000.00
		550-0000-101.10-10	Cash in Bank / BB & T				40,500.00
		551-0000-101.10-10	Cash in Bank / BB & T				40,500.00
		550-0000-101.10-10	Cash in Bank / BB & T				22,928.96
		550-0000-105.56-20	Accounts Receivable / Due From			22,928.96	
		551-0000-205.20-00	Accounts Payable / Due To				22,928.96
		551-0000-101.10-10	Cash in Bank / BB & T			22,928.96	
		to reimburse proprietary funds					
TOTALS						2,906,955.38	2,906,955.38

SCOTLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ITEM ABSTRACT

ITEM NO. 3
X Information
_____ Action Item
_____ Consent Agenda

Meeting Date February 2, 2015

SUBJECT:	Liaison Committee report/Schools capacity study discussion
DEPARTMENT:	Governing body
PUBLIC HEARING:	No
CONTACT PERSON:	Commissioners Bob Davis, Whit Gibson and Carol McCall
PURPOSE:	Provide update on the December 20 meeting of the Liaison Committee Comment on the capacity study and follow-up by the Board of Education
ATTACHMENTS:	Explanatory email from Commissioner Gibson Six-year proposal from the Commissioner Liaison members List of primary goals School Board proposal
BACKGROUND:	N/A
PRIOR BOARD ACTION:	N/A
RECOMMENDATIONS:	Receive information

Ann Kurtzman

From: Kevin Patterson <kplistserve@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 10:57 AM
To: akurtzman@scotlandcounty.org
Subject: FW:
Attachments: Liaison Committee 1-15-2015.docx

From: Whit Gibson [mailto:wgibson@scotlandcounty.org]
Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2015 11:56 AM
To: Jamie Sutherland
Cc: Bob Davis; cmccall@scotlandcounty.org; kpatterson@scotlandcounty.org
Subject:

Jamie,

Attached is a proposal from the Commissioners on the Liaison Committee. What we did was to take the 2 and1/2 % reduction per year (for 4 years) off of the "Mediation" established amount of $10,826,612 for the 2015-16 fiscal year. This was one of the options that the committee discussed at our December meeting. We also carried it out for one more year to 2019-20 beyond what we had discussed in order for us to get to the level that the Commissioners thought we could obtain consent from our Board. We also listed some of the thoughts that led us to making the reductions that this proposal entails. We want to continue to fund our schools in an extraordinary fashion, but also in a fashion that does not cripple our county government or our citizenry. We know that your budget is being hammered from many sides, but we know we cannot "fill" all of those shortfalls. We also believe that an objective evaluation of Scotland County's spending for education reveals that we are outdistancing all other counties and beyond which we can currently afford. Our effort in funding compared to our ability to fund is still #1 in the state, and if funding was reduced by $800,000, we would still be #1 in effort and in the top 3rd in per student expenditures. Please forward this information to Pat and BJ and contact me if you have questions.

Thanks to each of you for your conscientious efforts on behalf of our committee, your Board and Scotland County.

Whit

Fiscal Year	Current Expense		Local Capital *
2013-14	10,139,325		200,000
2014-15	10,614,325		300,000
2015-16	10,826,612	Mediation	300,000
2016-17	10,555,947	-2.5%	300,000
2017-18	10,292,048	-2.5%	300,000
2018-19	10,034,747	-2.5%	**
2019-20	9,783,878	-2.5%	**

Reduce Current Expense yet not to endanger Low Wealth Funding

Maintain minimum capital but begin 5 year Capital Improvement Plan between both Boards

* Capital funding amount does not include Lottery, Fine & Forfeitures, restricted sales taxes and sufficient general fund taxes to make up for shortfall of restricted sales taxes compared to debt service.

** Committing capital funding into 2018-19 and 2019-20 is too speculative to determine at this time, particularly in light of the School System evaluation of recent "capacity" study. This is not a statement of not funding capital needs,only to its amount.

Primary Goals of Scotland County Liaison Committee Members

The Goals of this process is to establish budgeted amounts and other objectives to be obtained by the development of the 19- 20 fiscal year allocations.

Elimination or suspension of a legislated formula for the calculation of the County Current Expense Appropriation. The development of alternative mechanism and/or legislation that protects both bodies but demands that both Boards actively fulfill their obligation to both the students and the Citizens of Scotland County and to establish budgets of both bodies.

Reach a Targeted Funding amount of Current Expense Appropriation of $9,786,878

As Scotland County is recognized as the poorest County in the State, we believe that Scotland County is suffering economic distress. Both Boards will acknowledge that Scotland County is facing economic distress that meets the standards in the current funding formula that allows both Boards to agree to set aside the calculation of the current legislated funding formula until the goals are met. Current conditions that indicate Scotland County's economic distress:

- Unemployment Rate
- Tax Rate is the highest in the State. (In order to meaningfully affect the tax rate, the appropriation for the School System's current expense would needs to be reduced by $1million).
- Median Household Income
- Most economically distressed County in N.C.

While working in cooperation to attain these goals, neither Board will work unilaterally at replacing or enforcing the current legislation (funding formula).

Scotland County is ranked number 1 for funding of Current Expense Effort compared to the availability to pay

- Scotland County is 22 in County Appropriations per ADM in the State
- Only three low wealth Counties appropriate funds for Current Expense per ADM

Commissioners believe that Scotland County has funded its schools at an extraordinary level and intend to work with the Scotland County School Board to continue to provide adequate funding for our schools.

Liaison Committee

Scotland County School Board Proposal

Fiscal Year	County Funding	Capital Funding
2013-14	$10,139,325	$198,000
2014-15	$10,614,325	$300,000
2015-16	$10,826,612	$300,000

	2%	2.25%	2.5%
16-17	**$10,610,080**	**$10,583,014**	**$10,555,947**
17-18	**$10,397,879**	**$10,344,897**	**$10,292,050**
18-19	**$10,189,921**	**$10,112,137**	**$10,034,749**

Capital for each year would remain at $300,000

YEAR	Current Expense Funding	Capital Expense Funding	Tax Rat
2009	$10,871,381	$680,000	$1.02
2010	$10,663,959	$580,000	$1.02
2011	$10,131,464	$0	$.99
2012	$10,075,654	$260,000 ($130K stadium)	$1.03
2013	$10,139,325	$198,000	$1.03

SCOTLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ITEM ABSTRACT

ITEM NO. 4
_____ Information
X Action Item
_____ Consent Agenda

Meeting Date February 2, 2015

SUBJECT:	Tax liens and request to advertise
DEPARTMENT:	Tax Department
PUBLIC HEARING:	No
CONTACT PERSON:	Tax Administrator Mary Helen Norton
PURPOSE:	Report the total amount of unpaid taxes for the current fiscal year
ATTACHMENTS:	Memorandum on tax liens
BACKGROUND:	N/A
PRIOR BOARD ACTION:	N/A
RECOMMENDATIONS:	Approve order to advertise the week of March 16, 2015

MARY HELEN NORTON
TAX ADMINISTRATOR
(910) 277-2566

County of Scotland

TAX DEPARTMENT

212 BIGGS STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 488
LAURINBURG, NORTH CAROLINA 28353

MARTY PATE
TAX COLLECTOR
(910) 277-2566

Memorandum

To: Scotland County Board of Commissioners

From: Mary Helen Norton, Tax Administrator

Re: Tax Liens & Advertising

Date: January 23, 2015

According to North Carolina General Statute 105-369(a), on the first Monday in February each county tax collector shall report to the governing body the total amount of unpaid taxes for the current fiscal year that are liens on real property. As of January 23, outstanding taxes that are liens on real property amount to $2,588,493.43. This figure includes County, Fire, School, Town of Wagram, Town of East Laurinburg and Town of Gibson taxes. The statute further states upon receipt of this report, the governing board must order and set a date for advertising tax liens. We respectfully request the order to advertise the week of March 16, 2015.

SCOTLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ITEM ABSTRACT

ITEM NO. 5

___ Information
___ Action Item
_X_ Consent Agenda

Meeting Date: February 2, 2015

SUBJECT: Consent Agenda

DEPARTMENT: Administration/Multiple

a) Approve minutes of the January 5, 2015, Water Districts meeting, the January 5, 2015 regular meeting and the January 26, 2015 special meeting.

b) Approve request by Public Buildings and Grounds to surplus two E-Z Riders used for dragging softball and baseball fields.

c) Approve request by the City of Laurinburg to hold Independence Day fireworks on July 4, 2015.

d) Approve Tax Department request to release funds in the amount of $31.45 and $690.60 and discoveries in the amount of $11,129.55.

e) Approve request by the Sheriff for the reduction of the assigned Grade/Step of the Sheriff's position from 78-12 $73,260 to 78-10 $69,720, which is an annual savings of $3,540.

f) Approve request by the Sheriff for the reclassification of Position #31-3, Captain, from Grade/Step 70-6 $44,076 to Major at 74-8 $55,440, which is an annual difference of ($11,364).

g) Budget amendments

1) Sheriff: Approve increase in Drug Fund in the amount of $11,838, and were drug monies obtained from the outgoing Sheriff, and authorize the Finance Officer to expend the monies as requested by the Sheriff's Department.

RECOMMENDATION(S): Approve Consent Agenda

Scotland County Water Districts, January 5, 2015
A.B. Gibson Center, 322 South Main Street, Laurinburg, NC

Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Guy McCook, Vice Chair Carol McCall and Commissioners John Alford, Bob Davis, Betty Blue Gholston and Whit Gibson. Commissioners not in attendance: Commissioner Clarence McPhatter. Staff present: County Manager Kevin Patterson, County Attorney Ed Johnston, Deputy Finance Officer Beth Hobbs and Clerk to the Board Ann Kurtzman.

At 6:30 p.m. Chairman McCook called the Water Districts Board meeting to order.

Deputy Finance Officer Hobbs presented the cash flow report and expenditures broken down by category for each district as of November 30, 2014, which does not include debt service payments. Ms. Hobbs also presented expenditures for each district.

Chairman McCook said the cash flow issue is a concern. Ms. Hobbs said the County is slowly moving forward but additional assistance would be needed as to where the Water Districts need to be.

Mr. Patterson said he does not foresee significant gain on the accrual side. Mr. Patterson said the rate structure might have to be reviewed. Mr. Patterson explained that the penetration rate was lower than originally planned. The County Manager answered several questions about the tap fees and water rates compared to the City.

Mr. Patterson discussed needed repairs to the three water towers at Deercroft, Gum Swamp and McEachin Road, the latter of which is in the worst condition. Repair of the three towers is estimated at $500,000. Mr. Patterson discussed a wash out cycle and interior and exterior painting, which would cost almost $1 million. Mr. Patterson said he would like to discuss options in upcoming budget meetings. Mr. Patterson said he would seek recommendations from City of Laurinburg staff, too.

Commissioner Davis asked for the cost of extending the water to areas not yet covered. Mr. Patterson said numerous variables must be considered in determining cost to specific areas.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Vice Chair McCall to adjourn. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

Guy McCook
Chairman

Scotland County Board of Commissioners
January 5, 2015, A.B. Gibson Center, 322 South Main Street, Laurinburg, NC 28352

Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Guy McCook, Vice Chair Carol McCall and Commissioners John Alford, Bob Davis, Betty Blue Gholston and Whit Gibson. Commissioners not in attendance: Commissioner Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: County Manager Kevin Patterson, County Attorney Ed Johnston and Clerk to the Board Ann Kurtzman.

At 7 p.m. Chairman McCook called the meeting to order. Pastor George Ellis of Union Grove Baptist Church delivered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to approve the January 5, 2015 agenda as presented. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Public Forum

Chairman McCook opened the public forum with the recognition of a citizen who has been extremely important to the community for many years. Chairman McCook asked Mr. Henry McLeod to join him while he read the following:

A Proclamation Recognizing Henry McLeod
for More than 50 Years of Service to Scotland County

WHEREAS, *Henry McLeod has spent the better part of five decades serving Scotland County;*

WHEREAS, *the lives of all citizens have been enriched and all citizens have benefitted from the selfless and committed energies Henry McLeod devoted to Scotland County;*

WHEREAS, *Henry McLeod engaged in purpose driven pursuits that positively impacted the community: guided the County on appropriate land use as a member and Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Board, helped develop the Scotland County Joint Land Use Plan and the Scotland County Zoning Ordinance, assisted with the building of Scotland Place Senior Center, served for many years as an impartial moderator of the annual candidate forum, was instrumental through the Parks and Recreation Commission in transitioning the City of Laurinburg department into a comprehensive countywide Parks and Recreation system, helped develop the Lumber River Canoe Trail, was a member of the Scotland County Board of Education in a time when the schools were consolidating, served on the Scotland Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees and was a member of the Richmond Community College Board of Trustees, representing Scotland County, when that entity was first known as Richmond Technical College.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED *the Scotland County Board of Commissioners owes Henry McLeod a debt of gratitude for a life of service to community and expresses its sincere appreciation for his determined leadership and faithful stewardship of all initiatives he embraced and designed in order to engage all facets of life in Scotland County for the purpose of improving its overall quality of life.*

Presented this 5th day of January 2015

Chairman McCook then introduced Ms. April Snead as the new DSS Director.

Sheriff Ralph Kersey asked to submit a number of requests for the Commissioners to consider. Sheriff Kersey made the following personnel requests. He asked that his position as Sheriff be reclassified to a

lower pay grade. The reduction would allow funds for a full-time person in the gun permit section. Sheriff Kersey asked that a detention officer be reclassified from Jailer I to Deputy I. Sheriff Kersey said since four telecommunicators will transition to the EOC/911 Call Center by the end of January that the four positions remain at the Sheriff's Office to shore up the security in four areas in the department. Sheriff Kersey asked that two part-time positions be merged into one, which would represent a savings.

Sheriff Kersey discussed some issues since taking office, specifically a shortage in funds for fuel and vehicle maintenance, which is almost used up.

Sheriff Kersey said he and his staff are up for the challenge intend to make wise decisions on how to best use the dollars available.

Chairman McCook said the Commissioners would like some time to consider the requests in order to respond as quickly as possible.

No one else came forward, and the public forum was closed.

Public Hearing: Conditional Use Application 479-14 by MLE, Inc.

Planning and Zoning Board member Henry McLeod presented the following Conditional Use application:

Conditional Use Application Number 479-14 – MLE, Inc. - Request for Conditional Use Permit defense training for military, law enforcement and other government agencies. The property is located at the intersection of Airbase Road and Skyway Church Road of Scotland County; better known as Scotland County Tax Map Number 252, Parcel 01, Block 005. The property is owned by MLE Incorporated, Pembroke, North Carolina.

Mr. McLeod said the Planning and Zoning Board recommends the application be approved.

Chairman McCook opened the Public Hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the application or if anyone wished to speak against the application. No one came forward.

Chairman McCook said there are FAA regulations that might need review. Chairman McCook referred the issue back to the Planning and Zoning Board for further review so it could be revisited at the February 2 meeting.

Having been duly sworn in Mr. Trevor Kräcker, CEO of Defense Logistics Training Alliance and a joint partner with MLE, which owns the property, said there would be no live fire except in one building, which would have a fabric awning for proper ventilation. Handguns would only be used in the building, and nothing past a 45 caliber would go in the material. Mr. Kräcker discussed the other safety measures employed by MLE. He discussed the Immersive Realistic Live Training Shoot (IRLTS), a system patented by the company. Mr. Kräcker showed the ballistic material used, which he said is the safest material. Mr. Kräcker said there would be 15-foot berms as added safety features for the what-if. Mr. Kräcker said four other buildings would house laser simulation and one building would be for offices.

Mr. Kräcker said training would be provided to professionals and people who want to get certified. There are currently 20 employees but 75 employees are expected by the spring. Mr. Kräcker said the company expects to use the whole compound.

MLE intends to use a lead friendly frangible bullet. Mr. Kräcker assured there would not be firing in many directions.

Mr. Kräcker pointed out where the buildings would be located, which would be in the center of the triangle-shaped tract and nowhere near the airport.

Commissioner Davis said he received a packet of information at 5 p.m. that he would like to have time to review

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to turn Conditional Use Application Number 479-14 – MLE, Inc. back to the Planning Board to for further review.

Discussion: Mr. Kräcker said MLE is not on airport property. Dr. Jeff Collins of MLE, having been duly sworn in, said $40 million to $50 million in improvements would be made to the property, which is not owned by the airport. Dr. Collins said MLE would not be in competition with Gryphon. Mr. Kräcker said MLE focuses on close work and laser and the live fire only contained in one building.

Chairman McCook said there are concerns with citizen safety, and the governing body would like an assurance that what is being requested is a compatible use with what's around it.

Mr. Kräcker invited the Commissioners to visit the property to see how safe it is.

Vote: Motion to turn Conditional Use Application Number 479-14 – MLE, Inc. back to the Planning Board to for further review unanimously approved.

School Capacity Study

Assistant Superintendent of Auxiliary Services Larry Johnson said the School Board is developing a five-year plan and a Commissioner is being asked to serve on that team. Mr. Johnson said the first meeting would start in the next two or three weeks.

Mr. Johnson discussed the capacity study, which shows each school and total number of rooms at every school, mobile units and what they're used for, square footage and ADM at each school. Vice Chair McCall asked for capacity at the high school, which is not included in the study. Chairman McCook asked for the capacity of the pods.

Liaison Committee Report

Vice Chair McCall summarized the Liaison Committee meeting December 9 and referred to the text of the minutes. Commissioner Gibson said a new set of numbers are expected at the next meeting January 20, and it is not known whether capital would be included in that.

Policy Committee Report

Vice Chair McCall said amendments to the reinstatement policy refer to an employee terminated under either reduction in force of employee in good standing or discretionary exercise of statutory authority of elected official. An employee reinstated within 45 days of termination would be given credit for previous Scotland County service for eligibility for all county benefits. An employee reinstated between 46 days to one year would be credited with accrued sick leave balance and credited with previous service for determining annual leave accrual. An employee reinstated after one year would be credited with previous service for determining annual leave accrual.

Vice Chair McCall said the Policy Committee recommends approval of the amended reinstatement policy.

Based on the Policy Committee recommendation that the revised reinstatement policy be adopted, Chairman McCook called for a vote. Amended Reinstatement Policy was approved by unanimous vote.

Consent Agenda

a) Approve minutes of the December 1, 2014, regular meeting and the December 10, 2014 reconvened meeting.
b) Approve Title VI Transit Plan as required under Title VI of the Civil Rights statute.
c) Approve request by Health Department to increase water sampling fees.
d) Approve Scotland County Area Transit System Safety Plan as required by the Federal Transit Administration and supported by the North Carolina Board of Transportation. ***(The Plan is available for review on the Transportation page at www.scotlandcounty.org).***
e) Budget amendments
1) Health: Approve receipt of funds in the amount of $10,501 for Family Planning—TANF Program, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money. No County dollars.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Gholston to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Scotland County/Richmond County 911 MOU

EMS Director Roylin Hammond and EOC/911 Director Mike Edge presented the MOU between Scotland and Richmond counties. The MOU between Richmond and Scotland counties was approved by the Richmond County Commissioners. Mr. Hammond said the document calls for the 911 PSAPS to back up each other. Mr. Hammond said a backup plan is mandated, and having such a plan makes counties eligible for 911 reimbursement from the State. It was pointed out that the counties are backward in paragraphs 3.8 and 4.8.

Motion was made by Commissioner Gibson and duly seconded by Vice Chair McCall to approve the Scotland County/Richmond County 911 MOU as amended. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Financial Update

Deputy Finance Officer Beth Hobbs presented revenues and expenditure as of November 30, 2014. She presented real property tax collections, which is a little higher compared to prior years. She presented prior year tax collections as of November 2014 and sales tax collection as of November 30, 2014. Ms. Hobbs said sales tax collections for North Carolina increased overall by 31 percent. Chairman McCook asked Ms. Hobbs to share sales tax collections figures at the February meeting.

Appointments to Boards and Committees

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to appoint Mr. William Graves to an unexpired term on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to appoint Mr. John Alford to the Southeastern Community & Family Services Board. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

County Manager Report

Mr. Patterson said Southeastern Community & Family Services is submitting its application for 2015/ 2016 CSBG funds and requests any comments from the Board of Commissioners, which will be forwarded to the organization.

Mr. Patterson presented the Commissioners with a breakdown of waived fees at the landfill from the demolition of the vacant Exxon Station. Fees waived totaled $11,789. Contaminated materials were sent to an industrial landfill.

Mr. Patterson said the ABC Store roof was cored at no cost, and it was discovered the store has three roof systems while building code only allows for two. Mr. Patterson said the roof will have to be stripped back to the decking and the roofing system will have to be rebid. Mr. Patterson said a current working estimate is $60,000 when the cost for a new roof was originally expected at $23,500.

Chairman McCook said the new information would call for additional discussion. Mr. Patterson said an anticipated change in the current building code might drop the price, but clarification is being sought for a better budgetary number.

Mr. Patterson reminded the Commissioners that this is the time for filing for tax exemptions. He encouraged citizens to visit the Tax Department to find out what the process is.

Public Buildings and Grounds Supervisor Mike McGirt provided an update on the DSS fascia project, which is about 99 percent complete.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Davis said something needs to be done about Andy Anderson's trailer park in Laurel Hill. Chairman McCook suggested staff might be able to present options at the upcoming board retreat.

Mr. Patterson said financial status for the Sheriff's Department is in the works and options and recommendations will be made. Chairman McCook said because of the urgency of some of the requests, they should be brought back to the February meeting. Mr. Patterson said he would review all the Sheriff's proposals, apply costs and figure operational avenues.

Motion was made by Commissioner Gibson and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to adjourn. Vote: Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

Guy McCook
Chairman

Scotland County Board of Commissioners special meeting
9 a.m. Monday, January 26, 2015, 507 West Covington Street, Laurinburg, NC

Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Guy McCook, Vice Chair Carol McCall and Commissioners John Alford, Bob Davis, Betty Blue Gholston and Whit Gibson. Commissioners not in attendance: Commissioner Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: County Manager Kevin Patterson, Deputy Finance Officer Beth Hobbs and Clerk to the Board Ann W. Kurtzman.

At 9 a.m. Chairman McCook called the special meeting to order. Commissioner Davis opened with a prayer.

Public Hearing: economic incentives -- Cascades

Chairman McCook opened the Public Hearing and asked the County Manager to discuss the incentives for Cascades tissue group. Mr. Patterson said this incentive plan is the largest and most comprehensive incentive the County has ever done. Cascades will employ 127 full-time and make a $53 million investment. The County will offer a cash incentive over 19 years. The first 10 years the incentives will be 100 percent and incentives will decrease in years 11 to 19 from 90 percent to 10 percent. Mr. Patterson said the 127 jobs include new positions as well as transfer positions. Incentives will begin with 2015 property taxes. There is a payback if Cascades does not meet its requirement in three years.

Chairman McCook asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or against incentive plan. No one came forward to speak, and the Public Hearing was closed.

Chairman McCook said the County can only incent property taxes that are already paid. The company pays the tax dollars and the County incents back to the company. Commissioner Gibson said it was important to sell the property and locate a business in the facility so its tax value would not decline.

Motion was made by Commissioner Gibson and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the Cascades incentive plan for immediate submission. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Status of Sheriff's budget

Deputy Finance Officer Beth Hobbs and County Manager Patterson provided a summary of the actual expenditures from the Sheriff's Department and the projection for remaining balance as of FY 2015. Projected operating surplus is $84,886. Ms. Hobbs presented the Jail figures as well where there would be a projected operating surplus through June of nearly $66,000.

Ms. Hobbs said a payroll shortfall of about $113,000 is expected in the Sheriff's Department due to transitions and separations before and after the election. Jail payroll will have a $73,000 salary surplus, which could be moved to the Sheriff's Department to cover salary and benefit shortfalls. Mr. Patterson said the Sheriff's Department would have enough to meet current year operations without significant modifications. Mr. Patterson said variables might be motor fuels and Jail medical costs. Mr. Patterson said staff will work with Sheriff's Department to ensure their needs are met.

Register of Deeds position

Mr. Patterson said the Register of Deeds position will be open as of March 1. Mr. Patterson said the Board of Commissioners is the appointing authority while the Democratic Party will have opportunity to make a recommendation 30 days from the point of vacancy.

Mr. Patterson said recruitment has begun. A notice is already on the website. Mr. Patterson said an assessment center at the SBIC for all candidates is scheduled for February 11. Mr. Patterson asked that Commissioners and the Democratic Party executive board staff the assessment center for interviews, presentations and written projects so notes could be compared at the end of the process for final candidate selection.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Gholston to approve the process presented for a combination assessment team between the Scotland County Democratic Party and the Board of Commissioners to have an assessment meeting to review candidate applications for the Register of Deeds. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Davis to adjourn. Vote: Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

Guy McCook
Chairman

City of Laurinburg

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

January 20, 2015

The Honorable Guy McCook, Chairman
Scotland County Board of Commissioners
County of Scotland
P.O. Box 489
Laurinburg, NC 28353

Re: Request for Public Exhibition with fireworks

Dear Chairman McCook:

Pursuant to NCGS 14-413, the City of Laurinburg hereby requests that the Scotland County Board of Commissioners approve the City's request to hold an Independence Day fireworks celebration on July 4, 2015. I greatly appreciate any consideration the Board of Commissioners will give to this request.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate in contacting me.

Sincerely,

Jennifer A. Tippett
City Clerk

305 West Church Street • P.O. Box 249 • Laurinburg, N.C. 28353
Phone: 910-276-8324 • Fax: 910-276-0354
www.laurinburg.org

County of Scotland

TAX DEPARTMENT

MARY HELEN NORTON
TAX ADMINISTRATOR
(910) 277-2566

212 BIGGS STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 488
LAURINBURG, NC 28353

MARTY PATE
TAX COLLECTOR
(910) 277-2566

January 2, 2015

Beth Hobbs
Finance Officer Scotland County

Re: Release, Refund and Discoveries for December 2014

Dear Ms. Hobbs,

Please find attached releases, refunds and discoveries for the month of December 2014.

The grand totals are as follows:

1. Releases less than $100 – Totaling: $31.45:
2. Releases more than $100 – Totaling: $690.60;
3. Refunds less than $100 – Totaling: $; All refunds due to overpayment;
4. Refunds more than $100 – Totaling: $; All refunds due to overpayment; and,
5. Discoveries – Totaling: $11,129.55.

With best regards,

Marty Pate
Scotland County Tax Collector

Enclosure

RELEASES LESS THAN $100

NAME	DESC/BILL #	AMOUNT	REASON
Christine Elizabeth Williams			
	2014-23935	$ 25.75	dlb listed
Burl Monroe	2011-15419	$ 0.55	balance less than $1
Allied Wireless Comm Corp			
	2014-301	$ 5.15	Business acq by AT&T Mobility in 2013
	Total	**$ 31.45**	

RELEASES MORE THAN $100

NAME	DESC/BILL #	AMOUNT	REASON
Sharon D Young	2014-23755	$345.60	Poultry house removed in 2012
Sara Margaret Grooms			
	2014-7827	$345.00	qualified for elderly exemption
	Total	**$690.60**	

REFUNDS LESS THAN $100

NAME	BILL #	AMOUNT	REASON
	Total	$ _____	

All refunds due to overpayment

REFUNDS MORE THAN $100

NAME	BILL #	AMOUNT	REASON
	Total	$ _____	

All refunds due to overpayment

DISCOVERIES

NAME	AMOUNT	REASON
Locklear Bros Enterprises, LLC	$ 591.64	1st yr in business – late listing
Curtis Williams	$ 404.28	unlisted swmh
Richard Harold Smith	$ 211.29	unlisted swmh
Wing Fowler Properties LLC	$ 8,813.13	roll back for PUV
Laura Rasheda DeVaughn	$ 1,109.21	No longer qualifies for elderly exclusion
Total	**$11,129.55**	

SCOTLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Ralph Kersey

January 16, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kevin Patterson, County Manager

FROM: Ralph Kersey, Sheriff RaK

SUBJECT: Request for Changes for Two Sheriff's Positions

With the implementation of the new Sheriff's administration and the placement of new and current employees within the established salary pay plan, I have assigned salaries within or below the range of the assigned pay grade for each position. However, there are two requests that require the approval of the Board of Commissioners and I am submitting the following information for the Board's consideration:

- I request the reduction of the assigned Grade/Step of the Sheriff's position from 78-12 $73,260 to 78-10 $69,720, which is an annual savings of $3,540.
- I am requesting the reclassification of Position #31-3, Captain, from Grade/Step 70-6 $44,076 to Major at 74-8 $55,440, which is an annual difference of ($11,364).

The difference in salary for the Major position is made up by the assignment of some positions within the department at less than the budgeted amounts. The total difference from the department's budgeted salary amounts and the new salary assignments result in a savings of $1,404 annually, $761 estimated savings for rest of this fiscal year. (Please note that these figures do not include fringe amounts.)

Please contact me if you have any questions.

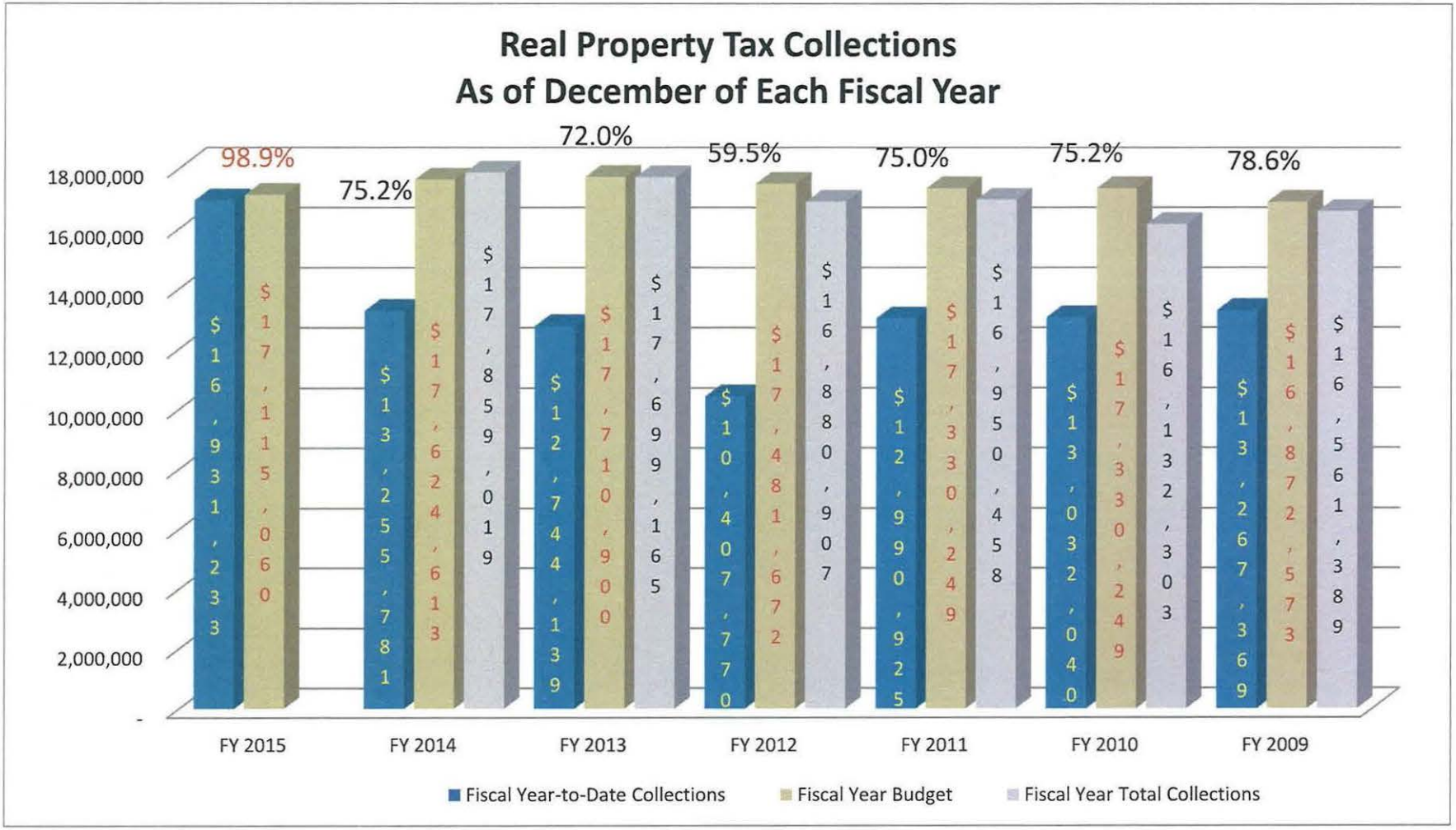
RK/sab

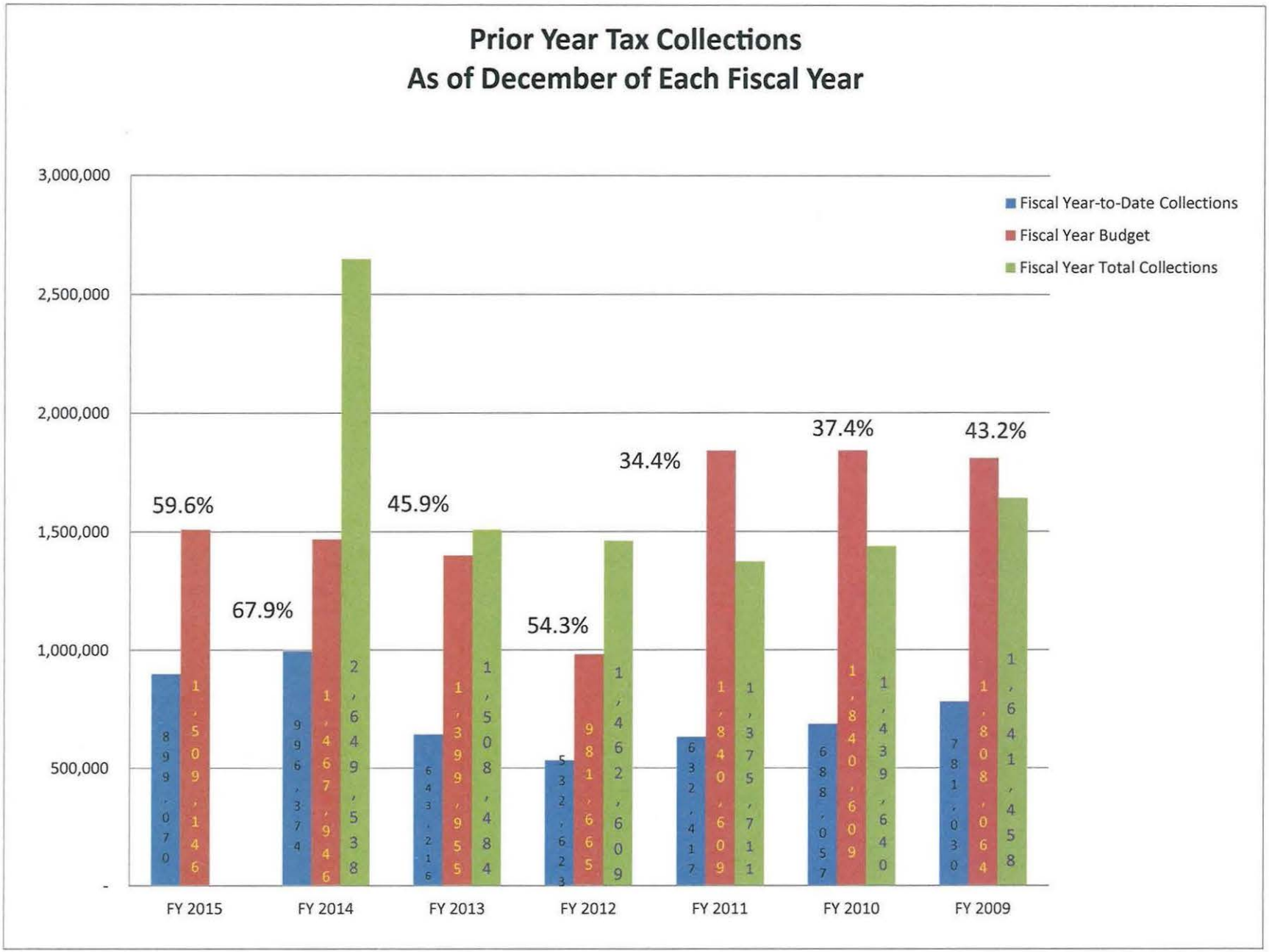
Post Office Box 607 • Laurinburg, North Carolina 28353
Office: (910) 276-3385 Fax: (910) 610-1590
scotlandcountysheriff.org

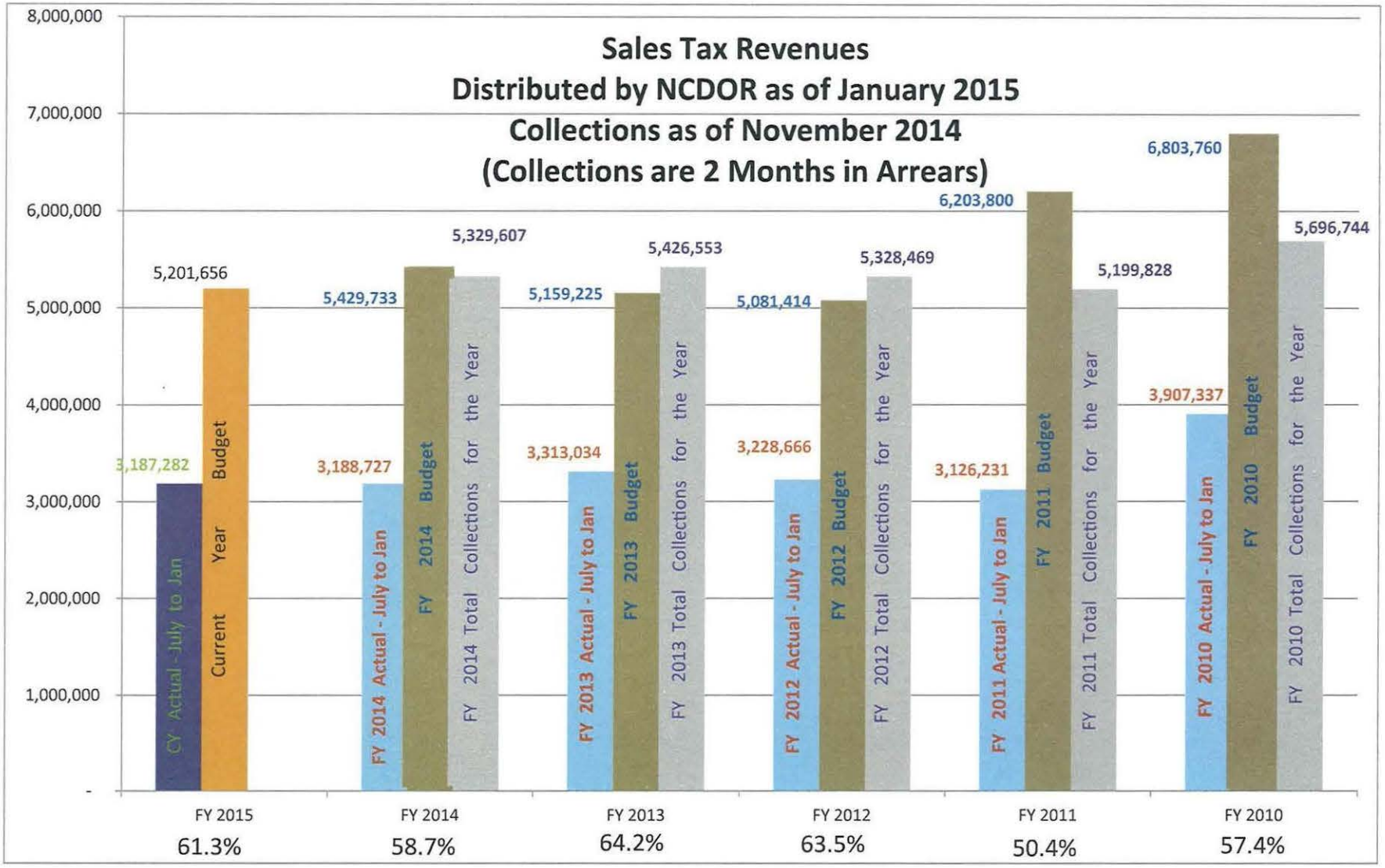
SCOTLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ITEM ABSTRACT	ITEM NO. 6
	_X_ Information
	___ Action Item
Meeting Date: February 2, 2015	___ Consent Agenda

SUBJECT:	Update on sales tax and property tax collections Overview of the purchase order process
DEPARTMENT:	Governing Body
PUBLIC HEARING:	No
CONTACT PERSON:	Deputy Finance Officer Beth Hobbs
PURPOSE:	Provide update on sales tax collections and property tax collections Explanation of purchase order protocols
ATTACHMENTS:	Real Property Tax Collections Prior Year Tax Collections Sales Tax Revenues as of January 2015
BACKGROUND:	N/A
PRIOR BOARD ACTION:	N/A
RECOMMENDATION(S):	Receive report


Real Property Tax Collections
As of December of Each Fiscal Year
18,000,000
16,000,000
14,000,000
12,000,000
10,000,000
8,000,000
6,000,000
4,000,000
2,000,000
-
98.9%
75.2%
72.0%
59.5%
75.0%
75.2%
78.6%
$16,931,233
$17,115,060
$13,255,781
$17,624,613
$17,859,019
$12,744,139
$17,710,900
$17,699,165
$10,407,770
$17,481,672
$16,880,907
$12,990,925
$17,330,249
$16,950,458
$13,032,040
$17,330,249
$16,132,303
$13,267,369
$16,872,573
$16,561,389
FY 2015
FY 2014
FY 2013
FY 2012
FY 2011
FY 2010
FY 2009
Fiscal Year-to-Date Collections
Fiscal Year Budget
Fiscal Year Total Collections


Prior Year Tax Collections
As of December of Each Fiscal Year
3,000,000
2,500,000
2,000,000
1,500,000
1,000,000
500,000
-
Fiscal Year-to-Date Collections
Fiscal Year Budget
Fiscal Year Total Collections
59.6%
67.9%
45.9%
54.3%
34.4%
37.4%
43.2%
FY 2015
FY 2014
FY 2013
FY 2012
FY 2011
FY 2010
FY 2009


Sales Tax Revenues
Distributed by NCDOR as of January 2015
Collections as of November 2014
(Collections are 2 Months in Arrears)
8,000,000
7,000,000
6,000,000
5,000,000
4,000,000
3,000,000
2,000,000
1,000,000
-
CY Actual -July to Jan
Current Year Budget
5,201,656
3,187,282
FY 2014 Actual - July to Jan
FY 2014 Budget
FY 2014 Total Collections for the Year
5,429,733
5,329,607
3,188,727
FY 2013 Actual - July to Jan
FY 2013 Budget
FY 2013 Total Collections for the Year
5,159,225
5,426,553
3,313,034
FY 2012 Actual - July to Jan
FY 2012 Budget
FY 2012 Total Collections for the Year
5,081,414
5,328,469
3,228,666
FY 2011 Actual - July to Jan
FY 2011 Budget
FY 2011 Total Collections for the Year
6,203,800
5,199,828
3,126,231
FY 2010 Actual - July to Jan
FY 2010 Budget
FY 2010 Total Collections for the Year
6,803,760
5,696,744
3,907,337
FY 2015
61.3%
FY 2014
58.7%
FY 2013
64.2%
FY 2012
63.5%
FY 2011
50.4%
FY 2010
57.4%

SCOTLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ITEM ABSTRACT

ITEM NO. 7

___ Information
_X_ Action Item
___ Consent Agenda

Meeting Date: February 2, 2015

SUBJECT:	Appointments to Boards and Committees
DEPARTMENT:	Governing Body
PUBLIC HEARING:	No
CONTACT PERSON:	Vice Chair Carol McCall
PURPOSE:	Fill vacancies on various boards and committees as necessary
ATTACHMENTS:	Update on current or upcoming vacancies on boards/committees Application from Ms. Joy Ellison for appointment to the Southeastern Community & Family Services Board Clarification from SCFS regarding \appointment of a Commissioner
BACKGROUND:	N/A
PRIOR BOARD ACTION:	N/A
RECOMMENDATION(S):	Make appointments as necessary

County of Scotland

507 West Covington Street
Laurinburg, North Carolina 28352
Telephone: (910) 277-2406
Fax: (910) 277-2411
www.scotlandcounty.org

Kevin Patterson
County Manager

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

Board of Commissioners
Guy McCook, Chairman
Carol McCall, Vice Chair
John T. Alford
Bob Davis
Betty Blue Gholston
Whit Gibson
Clarence McPhatter II

TO: **Scotland County Board of Commissioners**
FROM: **Ann W. Kurtzman, Clerk to the Board** AWK
SUBJECT: **Current Boards and Committees vacancies**
DATE: **January 28, 2015**

SOUTHEASTERN COMMUNITY & FAMILY SERVICES ***(previously Four County Community Services)***
There is one opening due to a resignation. This would be for a term that would expired June 30, 2016. There is no requirement for a Commissioner to serve on the SCFS Board. An application has been received from **Ms. Joy Ellison.**

Below is a list of Boards and Committees where vacancies currently are or will become available through May 2015.

AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL
Four seats including one for an unexpired term are open.

BOARD OF HEALTH
The physician, public-spirited citizen and dentist appointments will become available, effective December 2014.

LAURINBURG/SCOTLAND COUNTY CRIME AND DRUG COMMITTEE
Applications are accepted on a continuous basis for this committee.

LAURINBURG/SCOTLAND COUNTY PLANNING & ZONING BOARD
Two seats will be available in January 2015. Appointees must live in the ETJ.

LAURINBURG/SCOTLAND COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
Two seats will be available in May 2015. Appointees must live in the ETJ.

LRCOG SCOTLAND COUNTY ADULT CARE HOME COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
One seat is available.

LRCOG SCOTLAND COUNTY NURSING HOME COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
One seat is available.

MAXTON/SCOTLAND COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND APPEALS
One seat is open. Appointee must reside in the Maxton extraterritorial jurisdiction.

SCOTLAND COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
One seat is available.

SCOTLAND COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD
Three seats are available.

SCOTLAND COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
One seat one alternate seat is available.

WAGRAM/SCOTLAND COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
Two seats are available. The appointee must reside in the extraterritorial jurisdiction of Wagram.

NOTE: ***The above Board and Committee vacancies are advertised on the Scotland County website and the application form also is available on the website.***

Ann Kurtzman

From: notifications@scotlandcounty.org
Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2015 12:55 PM
To: Akurtzman@scotlandcounty.org
Subject: Form Submission Received: Online Application Form

From Url: http://www.scotlandcounty.org/online-application-form.aspx
From IP Address: 152.26.230.116

Name:
Davian LaJoyce Ellison "Joy"

Mailing Address:
14860 Blue Woods Road

Physical Address (if different from mailing address):

Daytime Phone:
9103187645

Evening Phone:
9103187645

Email:
scotlandcountyyd@gmail.com

I wish to be considered for appointment to the following Board(s)/Commission(s):
Southeastern Community & Family Services

List any experience/qualifications you have relevant to the above Board/Commission:
--An understanding of the needs of the Scotland County Community and surrounding counties --Experience serving on the Laurinburg City Council

List current service on other Board(s)/Commission(s):
N/A

List past service on other Board(s)/Commission(s):
-Experience serving on the Junior Service League Board of Directors

A form has been submitted, click the link below to view the submission:
http://www.scotlandcounty.org/FormWizard/ViewSubmission.aspx?mid=170&pageid=146&rid=1c2ce282-bbe9-4184-ba5c-f7496731e54f

From Southeastern Community & Family Services regarding appointments.

A. Public Officials (Public Sector)

Representatives of the public sector shall be selected by the county commissioners of the respective counties. Members selected to represent the public sector shall constitute one-third of the board membership.

In the selection of members for the public sector first priority will be given to elected public officials (county commissioners, mayors and city council members). However, should the number of elected public officials available and willing to serve be insufficient, the county commissioners may select appointed public officials where necessary. Those eligible for selection are: county managers, city managers, social services directors, health directors and mental health directors.

(A public official is considered eligible if he/she has responsibilities that are governmental in nature or which deal directly with poverty-related issues.)

Any public official selected for membership on the board may in turn choose someone to serve as his/her representative on the board, either on a full-time or part-time basis. Such representatives need not be public officials themselves. However, they shall have full authority to act for the public officials they represent at meetings of the board.

SCOTLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ITEM ABSTRACT

ITEM NO. _8__
__X__ Information
_____ Action Item
_____ Consent Agenda

Meeting Date February 2, 2015

SUBJECT:	Update from the County Manager
DEPARTMENT:	Administration
PUBLIC HEARING:	No
CONTACT PERSON:	County Manager Kevin Patterson
PURPOSE:	Provide monthly update on County business and activities.
ATTACHMENTS:	Monthly report Chamber of Commerce letter Bladen County letter
BACKGROUND:	N/A
PRIOR BOARD ACTION:	N/A
RECOMMENDATIONS:	Receive report and take any action necessary on other items.

County of Scotland

507 West Covington Street
Laurinburg, North Carolina 28352
Telephone: (910) 277-2406
Fax: (910) 277-2411
www.scotlandcounty.org

Kevin Patterson
County Manager

Ann W. Kurzmen
Clerk to the Board

Board of Commissioners
Guy McCook, Chairman
Carol McCall, Vice Chair
John T. Alford
Bob Davis
Betty Sue Gholston
Wint Gibson
Clarence McPhatter II

January 29, 2015

To: Board of County Commissioners

From: Kevin Patterson, County Manager

Re: Monthly Report

Sanderson Farms – After Cumberland County turned down the Sanderson Farms Project, I contacted the new NC Economic Development Partnership. I expressed interest in pursuing Sanderson Farms. As the Sanderson Farms project has 1,000 jobs attached to it, we are now one of twelve counties that have expressed an interest in the project. Sanderson Farms told the State Partnership that they would not consider any location in North Carolina unless they had a letter of support from local government before negotiations began. As the project is a processing plant there are going to be low skilled positions available. In conversations with plant managers the number one difficulty in finding employees is finding appropriate skills. This is a national issue. Of the 1,200+ unemployed in Scotland County, I assume a large number do not have the skills needed for advanced manufacturing and they are chronically unemployed. I request the Board approve a letter of support for the Sanderson Farms Project.

Request letter of support for Sanderson Farms Project.

Chamber Letter of Support – The Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors voting to send a letter to Senator Berger requesting a change of the grading scale for Schools. Currently the schools are graded 80% by Standardized Testing and 20% growth. The request is to allocate the scoring equally between testing and growth.

Consider any action taken

Annual Planning Retreat – It is time to schedule the planning retreat to begin the budget process. I would suggest February 27, March 4 or March 5. I would ask for a date that works for the Board and requested topics.

Request selection of a date for the annual planning retreat

County Manager Evaluation – It is time for my annual evaluation. I will send out the document to begin my evaluation for review. The first thing is to ensure you approve of the document or request any changes. Once the document is approved you will be sent a link to the electronic document. A date for the review would need to be established also. The date for the review could be established at the retreat.

Review of evaluation document

Auction Company – Currently I am waiting on final information requested from Iron Horse Auction and Rogers Realty to select an auction company. This information has a deadline to be in my office by Friday. I will have a recommendation to the Board on Monday night.

Request selection of an auction company

Scotland Cemetery – I have been contacted by the State Cemetery Commission. They have a potential new owner. The interest in the property is from Followers of Christ Church, Maxton NC. They are requesting that the County take possession of the property and then immediately transfer the property. They would like to negotiate on the taxes due. More importantly if the County takes possession of the property the legal nature of the perpetual care fund changes. Since the cemetery is owned by a private party now there is a bond on the perpetual care fund. Churches are not required to have a bond on the fund and have greater flexibility in the perpetual care funds. If the Church takes the cemetery directly from the private owner the nature of the perpetual care fund does not change. The State Cemetery Commission supports this process. I have talked with several other entities interested in the property. None of those entities were interested without the County's involvement. Each entity subsequently lost interest in the project.

Request consider accepting the property parallel a bid from Followers of Christ Church.

Laurinburg/Scotland County Area Chamber of Commerce

January 26, 2015

Via Federal Express Overnight Mail
Senator Phil Berger
President Pro Tempore
North Carolina Senate
16 West Jones Street, Room 2007
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-2808

Re: Public School Grading System to be released on February 5, 2015

Dear Senator Berger:

The Laurinburg/Scotland County Area Chamber of Commerce has a membership of over 350 businesses in and around Scotland County, North Carolina. The Chamber's Board of Directors and its members have a grave concern regarding the "A" through "F" grading system of the North Carolina Public Schools that is proposed to be released on February 5, 2015.

Our challenge with this grading system is that the template does not allow for a sufficient amount of growth versus grade. It is our understanding that the model will grade the schools of North Carolina according to 20% growth and 80% grade.

As I am sure you are aware, the rural communities such as ours are struggling now and if the current grading model is used it quite possibly will negatively impact potential new economic development in our county for a long time.

Our county schools welcome the opportunity to be evaluated on our levels of performance with specifics based on growth. We have made great strides to the point of over 93% of our 3rd graders reading at 3rd grade level and proficient in math at over 90%.

We beg your consideration to change the grading model to 50% grade and 50% growth.

Sincerely,

H. Lee Howell, Jr
Chairman
Laurinburg/Scotland County Area Chamber of Commerce

cc: Senator Tom McInnis
Representative Ken Goodman
Representative Garland Pierce

606 South Atkinson Street▪Laurinburg, NC 28352▪910.276.7420▪910.277.8785(fax)
www.laurinburgchamber.com

County of Bladen
Board of County Commissioners

January 8, 2015

Mr. Guy McCook
County of Scotland
PO Box 489
Laurinburg, NC 28353-0489

Dear Mr. McCook,

As you know, rural counties are facing increasingly difficult challenges in providing basic county services, such as public safety, human services and funding for education, while also investing in critical infrastructure improvements to stimulate economic development opportunities for our citizens. With minimal tax base growth in recent years and with limited revenue options, it is difficult for rural counties to meet the growing demand and increasing cost of providing basic county services while maintaining a reasonable tax burden for our citizens.

It appears that the North Carolina economy is improving; however, many of us in rural counties are seeing and feeling a different reality. Growth in jobs and tax base in our rural counties is not keeping pace with the growth in urban areas. Quality infrastructure is key to attracting new investment and jobs, but there are increasingly fewer resources available to rural counties to invest in water, sewer, natural gas, broadband, quality industrial facilities and other critical infrastructure improvements. Additionally, student achievement is another area in which rural counties are largely lagging in the competitive environment of education, placing rural counties at a further disadvantage in the competition to attract industry and associated jobs.

Maintaining quality, local healthcare is another significant challenge for rural counties. In fact, several rural hospitals have closed or scaled back services, and others are facing dire financial difficulties. The legislation and regulations written over the next few years will greatly impact our communities' opportunity for maintaining quality, local healthcare.

These are just a few of the challenges that we face in our 85 rural counties. With our upcoming Legislative Goals Conference in Pinehurst, I hope we can make a concerted effort to work together to bring these and other important issues to our North Carolina Association of County Commissioners' legislative platform. We are at a critical juncture in rural North Carolina and our best opportunity to positively influence our future is by working together. If you have questions or suggestions as to how to achieve this goal please feel free to contact me at cpeterson@bladencc.edu.

Sincerely,

Charles Peterson, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners

PO Box 1048
Elizabethtown, NC 28337
910 862-6700 (voice) – 910 862-6767 (fax)

SCOTLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ITEM ABSTRACT
Meeting Date: February 2, 2015

ITEM NO. 9
Closed Session

SUBJECT:	Closed Session held in accordance with N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, condition of appointment of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee.
DEPARTMENT:	Governing Body
PUBLIC HEARING:	No
PURPOSE:	N/A
ATTACHMENT(S):	N/A
RECOMMENDATIONS:	Approve December 1, 2014 closed session minutes